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## ENG 1092G-096: Composition and Literature

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COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE  
ENGLISH 1092G (Spring 2008)

Objectives:

- to promote careful, coherent, substantive writing;
- to encourage active, thoughtful reading of world-class drama, fiction, and poetry;
- to increase understanding of views and cultures represented in literature;
- to sharpen critical thinking -- the analysis of ideas and evidence.

Scope: During the term you will read a considerable range of drama, fiction, and poetry. You will write four typed essays of about three pages each and one typed, research-supported essay of 7-8 pages of argument ("Works Cited" will follow the argument). As a capstone experience, you will interpret a range of poems during a final exam. The final exam will require you to write two short interpretations (about 250-300 words each) and one essay (about 600 words). In addition, a portion of your grade will reflect class participation. Here's a breakdown of the components that will determine the final grade for the course:

- four essays of about three pages each: 40% of grade
- one research-supported essay of 7-8 pages: 35% of grade
- class participation: 10% of grade
- final examination: 15% of grade

Grading Policy: For the essays and final, I will grade using a simple ten-point scale. That is, a 92% is an A- , an 87% is a B+, and so on. When I grade the essays and the final, I will consider content (purpose, reasoning, evidence), organization and coherence, grammar and mechanics, and style. You can rewrite one of your first two essays for a new grade. Keep in mind that an essay or a final will fail if it is radically deficient in any of the areas for grading I have mentioned. After all, readers are served neither by a technically perfect essay that is superficial and empty nor an otherwise thoughtful essay that is riddled with distracting errors and infelicities.

Late/Absence Policy: You are expected to hand in your work on time and in class. You will forfeit five points each day for late work and five points for work placed in my mail on the due date. If you are enrolled in another class or engaged in any other activity that may cause you to miss a significant number of classes in 1092, you should not attempt to take 1092G this term. If you have an excused absence, I will arrange time for you to catch up with written work. You must provide a verifiable excuse from Health Service, a doctor, or a University official for an excused absence. After three unexcused absences, you will forfeit 10% of your overall grade and an additional 5% for each subsequent absence.

Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism is a serious offense; it is intellectual theft and fraud. Accordingly, plagiarism will be punished in conformity with English Department and University procedures. Here is the English Department's statement concerning plagiarism:

Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism --"The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's own work"-- (Random House Dictionary of the English Language) has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

Electronic Writing Portfolio: Because the course is designated "writing centered," you may submit an essay from the course to the Electronic Writing Portfolio (EWP).

Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

1. Week of January 7
  - Introduction to Course; Writing Assignment: Your Reading and Writing
  - “Greek Drama” and “Sophocles” (29-40)
  - Oedipus Rex* (40-51 to Scene 2); Writing Assignment Due
2. Week of January 14
  - Oedipus the King* (51-64)
  - Further Discussion of Play; Introduction to Elizabethan Drama (188-99)
  - “Shakespeare” and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (200-215 to Act III)
3. Week of January 21
  - King’s Birthday: No Classes
  - A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (215-33)
  - Further Discussion of Play; “Drama in the Early and Mid-Twentieth Century” (544-55)
4. Week of January 28
  - “Arthur Miller” and *Death of a Salesman* (699-720 to Act II)
  - Death of a Salesman* (720-740)
  - Further Discussion of Play; Introduction to Narrative Fiction
5. Week of February 4
  - First Essay of Interpretive Summary of Drama Due**; Poe’s “The Cask of Amontillado” (1149-54)
  - Poe’s “The Fall of the House of Usher” (1155-68)
  - Hawthorne’s “Young Goodman Brown” (660-69)
6. Week of February 11
  - Gilman’s “The Yellow Wallpaper” (574-85)
  - Faulkner’s “A Rose for Emily” (505-11)
  - Lincoln’s Birthday: No Classes
7. Week of February 18
  - O’Connor’s “The Artificial Nigger” (1109-23)
  - Melville’s “Bartelby the Scrivener” (986-99)
  - “Bartleby the Scrivener” (999-1011); **Second Essay of Interpretation of Drama Due**
8. Week of February 25
  - “Tolstoy’s “The Death of Ivan Ilych” (1252-77)
  - “The Death of Ivan Ilych” (1277-91)
  - Cather’s “Paul’s Case” (213-27)

9. Week of March 3

- “Conrad’s “Heart of Darkness” (319-49)
- “Heart of Darkness” (349-77)
- Essay of Analysis of a Story Due**; Crane’s “The Blue Hotel” (407-26)

**SPRING RECESS**

10. Week of March 17

- Baldwin’s “Sonny’s Blues” (37-59)
- Walker’s “To Hell with Dying” (1321-26)
- Malamud’s “The Magic Barrel” (933-45)

11. Week of March 24

- Singer’s “Gimpel the Fool” (1217-26)
- Thurber’s “The Catbird Seat” (1245-51)
- Welty’s “Petrified Man” (1326-35)

12. Week of March 31

- “Introduction” to Poetry (1-17); Dancing an Attitude: “Because I could not stop for Death” (174-75), “Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night” (275-76), “Home Burial” (207-10), “The Last Words of My English Grandmother” (220-21)
- Now for Something Completely Different: “Anecdote of the Jar” (213-14), “Disillusionment of Ten O’Clock” (214), “The Red Wheelbarrow” (221), “This is Just to Say” (223), “nobody loses all the time” (248-49)
- Essay Comparing or Contrasting Stories Due**; Discussion of Researched Essays

13. Week of April 7

- Rhythm and Rhyme (26-33); Handout of Poe’s “Annabel Lee;”
- Nominations for Next Week’s Poems Due**
- “Free Verse, Open Form, and Closed Form” (33-40); from “Song of Myself” (165-72), “Easter Wings” (81), “Ode to the West Wind” (123-26)
- “Figurative Language” (17-23); Shakespeare’s Sonnets 18, 73, 116, 130 on pages 66-69; Donne’s “Holy Sonnet 24” (75)

14. Week of April 14

- “To His Coy Mistress” (89), “My Last Duchess” (11-13), “Dover Beach” (173-74)
- “Ulysses” (151-53), “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (235-39)
- “Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard” (98-102), “Ode on a Grecian Urn” (129-30)

15. Week of April 21

- Poems
- Poems; **Researched Essays Due**
- Student Evaluations; Preparation for Final Examination